

# Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

VOLUME XX

ASHLAND, O., WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1898

No. 29

## Editorial

### An Extra Edition

Our next issue will be the Conference number. There will be cuts of Winona Park, with description by brother C. F. Yoder; special contributions along the line of conference work, the most important work of the Conference, does it pay to hold Conferences, our greatest needs; etc. The number will be an interesting one, in which all the agencies of the church will be represented. Extra copies will be issued for free distribution. They will be mailed to pastors and agents upon application, but distribution is to be made judiciously.

### Vacation Days

During the months of July and August many people suspend their regular taskwork, leave home and spend the time in what they call "vacation." How much good comes out of these vacation days we can not say, but pastors, Sunday-school superintendents and other Christian workers should remember that Satan and his agents never suspend operations. They are busy in season and out of season; for them there are no hot months and no cold months. So far as work is concerned all days are alike to them. But if, to preserve your health and keep you strong for the Lord's work, it is necessary that you take a vacation, remember that in doing so, you need not cease worshiping God or doing service for him. Vacation days have their special opportunities as well as other seasons of the year. Whether at the sea shore or on the mountains, life goes on and God means that it shall be filled with good and holy living. Wherever we are and whatever our work may be, we are to continue to be Christians, growing better, helping some one who needs help, spreading the gospel, living sweetly, beautifully, cheerfully, prayerfully, unselfishly, honoring God and doing something that will make this world a little better, bring it nearer to God, and hasten the day of the Lord's coming.

### Do We Appreciate It?

For three months we have been at war with a foreign power. Thus far success has crowned all our efforts, but there is danger of taking too much credit and glory to ourselves. During these months of war God has graciously smiled upon our land. Truly the light of his countenance has been lifted upon us as a people. The whole country is blest with one of the richest harvests ever gather-

ed. The rains have come in their season and the earth has not failed to bring forth her increase. And all these blessings notwithstanding the fact that we are engaged in a bloody, cruel war. Do we appreciate God's goodness, his merciful kindness, his tender, loving care? We rejoice, that amid the scenes of horror and confusion, the chief Executive of the nation again and again directs the hearts of the people to the Father of mercies. Let us worship and adore him.

### Consecrate Talent

There is no want of talent in the Christian church. There is enough brain, enough intellect, enough money, in the church today to carry the gospel to the whole world in less than a decade. But it is *consecrated* talent that the church needs and must have to accomplish her work. The wealth in the hands of Christian people will be but blocks under the wheel until such wealth is consecrated to the Lord's use. The brightest and strongest intellects in the church will continue so much useless talent, until they are laid on the altar of God and there sanctified and consecrated to the use for which God gave them. To add financially and intellectually strong men and women to the church may mean much or it may mean little. It all depends on the sanctified heart and the consecrated talent.

### In the Wrong Place

Despondent, discouraged, and now weary and hungry, Elijah, the Lord's prophet hides in a cave far away from duty. Here the angel came to him and spake to him, saying, "What doest thou here, Elijah?" There was a gentle reproof in these words, reproof in which the chief ingredient was love. There are many Christians hid away from duty in some cave to whom the Lord might speak less gently. Especially is this so during these warm days. Church members have gone off to hide in the cave of pleasure, at some summer resort they neglect the services of the sanctuary. They are comfortably housed in the cave of worldly pleasure. Others again, have hidden in the cave of indifference. It is a cool place, where self-denial and spiritual exertions of any kind are strangers. This cave is well filled with a people who are entirely harmless, so harmless that they would not even injure a fly, nor would they benefit a human being. It is a comfortable place these hot days. Still others have stolen away into the cave of sorrow. Death has visited their homes, and now they

have gone into mourning. Religious duties are neglected. They will not be seen in the sanctuary, but away in the cave of sorrow they vainly imagine themselves cut off from all religious duties and responsibilities. It is not the earthquake, not the mighty wind, not the flashing of the lightning, that will stir these people out of their hiding places. It will be the whispering of the still small voice, the angelic voice, speaking in gentle accents and sweet tones, the voice of God in prayer and in his word, in providence and thro his ever blessed spirit, calling in loving rebuke as of old, "What doest thou here?" Arise, come forth, the Master calleth for thee.

### Refuge Under A Tree

Weary and hungry after a long journey, Elijah found peace and rest under a juniper tree. There God visited him, giving him food, sweet rest and blessed sleep. Truly the dear Father in heaven is gracious, long-suffering and full of tender mercy. There is another tree whose leaves are for the healing of the nations, a refuge for weary, hungry souls. It is the cross, once the accursed tree, but now the symbolism of all that is great and true and pure in earth and heaven. Under that tree is immortal life, blooming youth, peace for the troubled heart, rest for the weary soul, and sleep, not the sleep of death, but the sweet sleep which will awake in his likeness to a glorious immortality. May the whole family of God find refuge beneath the cross of Christ.

### The Universal Trust

A Chicago trust now controls, it is said, all the fisheries of the great lakes and adjacent rivers, so that the vast populations who eat these fish will henceforth have to pay what the trust is pleased to exact. The rapid multiplication and increasing magnitude of these financial combinations would seem to suggest that Edward Bellamy's universal trust is a not very distant probability. When that arrives the burning question will be whether everything shall belong to one man, or whether everything shall belong to every man. One thing seems to be quite certain, and that is that society will either be enslaved and ruined, or it will be radically reorganized, as a final result of these enormous combinations of the money power, and the selfish use which is made of it. There are perils enough ahead of the republic, and there is no other saving salt in sight but the gospel. If its principles prevail, as we be-